

FRIENDS OF THE ARTICLE V CONVENTION

One Friend At A Time . . .



What does the 14th Amendment Have to Do With an Article V Convention?

Many people expect “answers” to all issues about an Article V Convention to be found within the text of Article V. When they discover that issue is not answered by that text some stop looking and state the lack of an “answer” is the basis for not holding the convention. These people ignore a basic principle of the Constitution which applies to all issues about the Constitution.

For an issue to be constitutional it must satisfy **all** provisions of the Constitution. An issue cannot be constitutional in Article I but unconstitutional in Article IV. As **all** provisions of the Constitution affect an issue, the issue may be answered by any provision of the Constitution.

Article V answer two issues about a convention. It describes the circumstances under which the convention must be called (two-thirds application by the state legislatures) and specify the convention’s purpose and limitation (a convention for proposing amendments).

A constitutional provision which answers many issues about a convention is the 14th Amendment’s “equal protection” clause. Equal protection means all laws (including provisions of the Constitution) are applied equally to those affected by the laws. In the case of Article V this means all laws, court rulings, and constitutional provisions which apply to Congress (the other amendment proposal body of Article V) equally apply to an Article V Convention.

Therefore, thanks to the 14th Amendment, most questions regarding issues about an Article V Convention are answered by saying, “just like Congress.” For more details [please click this link](#).